

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 MCE-00 FEA-01 ACDA-12 IO-13 EB-08 NRC-05
OES-07 ERDA-05 /110 R

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-----107435 230918Z /10

R 220144Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
INFO USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 254104

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MNUC, SW

SUBJECT: ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS: SWEDISH REACTION

REF: STOCKHOLM 4337

1. RE REQUBST PARA 2 REFTEL FOR UNCLASSIFIED MATERIAL
ON ER WEAPONS, TABS B AND C OF US WORKING PAPER ON THE
MILITARY UTILITY OF ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS (STATE
227949 REPEATED TO YOU, WITH TAB MATERIAL POUCHES
SEPARATELY) ARE UNCLASSIFIED AND MAY BE USED, ALONG WITH
ARMS CONTROL IMPACT STATEMENT CONTAINED STATE 163812,
AS APPROPRIATE.

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2. IN ADDITION, ON IF-ASKED BASIS, EMBASSY MAY DRAW
UPON THE FOLLOWING GENERAL GUIDANCE ON ER WEAPONS
DEVELOPED IN NATO CONTEXT TO EFFECT THAT ENHANCED
RADIATION WEAPONS WERE DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE
OVERALL DETERRENCE OF THE ALLIANCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF MODERNIZATION OF THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES. A US

DECISION TO PRODUCE ER WEAPONS WOULD MAKE LITTLE SENSE WITHOUT A CORRESPONDING DECISION TO DEPLOY THEM. FOR THIS REASON THE VIEWS OF THE ALLIES ARE ESSENTIAL AND THE PRESIDENT HAS SPECIFICALLY DEFERRED A PRODUCTION DECISION IN ORDER TO SEEK ALLIED VIEWS ON DEPLOYMENT.

3. IN VIEW OF CURRENT CONSULTATIONS WITH NATO ALLIES PRIOR TO US DECISION ON THIS ISSUE, AND WITH CONTINUING PUBLIC CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THESE WEAPONS, EMBASSY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT INITIATE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS EXPLAINING US POSITION AT THIS TIME.

4. INTERESTINGLY, NEITHER SWEDISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR THYBERG NOR ANY MEMBER OF HIS DELEGATION TO DAY-LONG POLICY TALKS OCTOBER 13 RAISED ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS, THOUGH EAST-WEST MATTERS AND DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS WERE FULLY EXPLORED. ALSO, THYBERG DID NOT MENTION ER DURING 30-MINUTE CALL ON GEORGE VEST. PERHAPS THE SWEDES FEEL THAT WE AND THEY HAVE SAID ENOUGH TO ONE ANOTHER ON THE SUBJECT FOR THE MOMENT.

5. FOR YOUR BACKGROUND INFORMATION, WE ARE ALSO REPEATING TO YOU SEPTTEL PORTION OF CABLE REPORTING SECRETARY'S BILATERAL CONVERSATION WITH DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL SEPTEMBER 29 IN NEW YORK DEALING WITH ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS.
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6. FURTHER GUIDANCE WILL BE SENT TO YOU AS IT IS DEVELOPED.

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Message Attributes

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